

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 /086 W

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R 280651Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1721

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR QA MU

SUBJECT: AMIR OF QATAR VISITS OMAN

REF: DOHA 1435 (NOTAL)

1. SHAYKH KHALIFA BIN HAMAD AL THANI, AMIR OF QATAR, SPENT MOST OF DEC. 20 AND 21 ON STATE VISIT TO OMAN, HIS FIRST TO SULTANATE. POMP AND CEREMONY PREDOMINATED RATHER THAN SIGNIFICANT SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION, SO FAR AS WE ARE AWARE. AMIR WAS FIRST VISITOR TO BE HOUSED IN SULTAN QABOOS' RECENTLY OPENED CEREMONIAL PALACE ON MUSCAT WATERFRONT, CAUSING HEAVY AND NOISY TRAFFIC TO AND FROM ITS ROOFTOP HELICOPTER PAD, WHICH NOW DOMINATES THE TOWN.

2. AL BU SAID ROYAL FAMILY MEMBERS, MINISTERS, FOREIGN AMBASSADORS AND BUSINESS LEADERS WERE TROTTED OUT FOR THE OCCASION,
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NOT ONLY FOR SEEB AIRPORT ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE CEREMONIES

BUT ALSO FOR LENGTHY SIX-COURSE SITDOWN STATE BANQUET HOSTED BY SULTAN AT SEEB PALACE IN SHAYKH KHALIFA'S HONOR. (RATHER TRYING MIXED ARAB AND WESTERN MENU WAS SUCH THAT STANDARD, RUSH-THROUGH GOAT GRAB WOULD PROBABLY HAVE BEEN PREFERRED BY MOST GUESTS, INCLUDING THE AMIR AND HIS ACCOMPANYING MINISTERS AND ADVISERS.)

3. AT CONCLUSION, JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED. AMONG THE HIGHLIGHTS:

A. AFFIRMATION OF JOINT INTEREST IN PROTECTING SECURITY AND STABILITY OF GULF AREA;

B. STATEMENT THAT MIDDLE EAST SECURITY DEPENDS ON RESPECTING UN RESOLUTIONS, SPECIFICALLY THOSE CALLING FOR ISRAEL'S WITHDRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED TERRITORY INCLUDING JERUSALEM, AND CALLING FOR PALESTINIANS TO EXERCISE "FULL RIGHTS OVER THEIR FATE AND THEIR NATION...;"

C. PRAISE FOR UN EFFORTS ON CERDS ISSUE, ALONG WITH CALL FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN DEVELOPING AND INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS;

D. ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT COMMISSION TO FURTHER COOPERATION "IN VARIOUS FIELDS...;" AND

E. EXTENDING OF INVITATION FOR QABOOS TO VISIT QATAR, WHICH WAS ACCEPTED WITHOUT DATE SPECIFIED.

4. WE HAVE SO FAR FOUND NO REFERENCE TO OMANI "VICTORY" IN DHOFAR, EITHER IN COMMUNIQUE OR IN PRESS ACCOUNTS ACCOMPANYING TEXT. LIKEWISE, NO INDICATION OF ANY SUBSTANTIVE TALKS ON GULF AIR OR GULF CURRENCY.
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